

S/N To Be Assigned

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: THOMPSON Examiner: C. KOH
Serial No.: To Be Assigned Group Art Unit: 3738
Filed: Herewith Docket No.: 11576.38USC1
Title: STENT WITH ENHANCED FRICTION

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By:

Name: Omesh Singh

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced application, please make the following amendments:

In the Specification

Please insert the following paragraph on page 1 after the title:

This invention is a continuation of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/404, 418 filed September 23, 1999. ~~A new US patent No. 6254631~~

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 16-26 (3rd paragraph) with the following replacement paragraph:

For purposes of illustration, the present invention is described with reference to a stent 10 having a structure such as more fully described in commonly assigned and copending U.S. patent application Ser. Nos. 09/049,486 filed March 27, 1998, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,132,460, and 09/069,347 filed April 29, 1998, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,132,461. Such a stent 10 is formed from a

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hollow, solid wall tube of stent material (e.g., titanium, Nitinol, stainless steel etc.). Excess material of the tube is removed through any suitable means such as laser cutting or chemical etching. Removal of the excess material leaves a stent 10 having a plurality of ribs 16 defining a plurality of open cells 18 extending through the wall thickness of the stent 10. The ribs 16 have interior surfaces 16a (Figs. 3 and 4) facing the axis X - X and exterior surfaces 16b facing away from the axis X - X. The interior and exterior surfaces 16a, 16b are joined by radial surfaces 16c.

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 5-11 (2nd paragraph) with the following replacement paragraph:

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The present invention selectively roughens the interior surface 16a of the stent 10 to enhance friction between the stent 10 and a catheter balloon. Such a roughening is counter-intuitive since conventional stent construction theory calls for a smooth, highly polished stent to avoid or minimize raised areas which might otherwise provide sites for thrombus formation or platelet activation after the stent is deployed. However, test data have indicated that a stent 10 with roughened surfaces as will be described does not exhibit excessive thrombus formation or platelet activation.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1-4 and 6, and add new claims 8-15 as follows:

Sub D 1. An intraluminal stent comprising:

a stent body having an un-deployed orientation in which the stent body is sized to be placed on a deployment balloon and advanced through a body lumen to a deployment site;

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said stent body expandable upon inflation of said balloon to an enlarged orientation sized for said stent body in said enlarged orientation to be retained within said lumen at said site upon deflation and withdrawal of said balloon;